

While at first glance, the idea of using power lines to send high speed digital data seems useful, the fact is that the digital signals radiate an enormous amount of RF energy into the ether, essentially polluting the RF environment for other users of the RF spectrum. The convenience of using power lines for broadband digital connections would come at enormous cost to those who need to use the RF spectrum for radio communication. In the various test markets, using BPL systems that operate under part 15 rules, the RF interference is very significant. Expanding such systems and/or permitting higher power levels would make the situation much worse. For users who need broadband, non-radiating closed system technologies, such as cable and DSL, offer alternatives that do not pollute the RF spectrum.